



Department
for Education

Skills Advisory Panels: Data sources

November 2020

Background

This document is supplementary to the Skills Advisory Panels Analytical Toolkit¹ and was originally published in December 2018. It was updated in November 2020 to reflect changes to the available data sources, including the addition of new publications.

Owing to the flexibility of the Skills Advisory Panels Analytical Toolkit, there is no single or prescriptive list of datasets. Datasets listed are publicly available and have been identified by the Department for Education's Skills Advisory Panels programme team in partnership with local areas. The list is not exhaustive and we acknowledge datasets have strengths and limitations dependent on their use. Therefore, local areas are encouraged to use others datasets available if they add quality, value and context.

Where datasets are not available at the local level, analysing higher level data and using broader expertise is encouraged to assess skills and wider labour market challenges.

We have listed, without being exhaustive, a number of datasets government departments regularly publish. Analysts should look to build the evidence base using wider sources, contextual information and qualitative data sources (e.g. recent case studies). Examples of other sources that may assist local areas are listed next.

1. Published government datasets

For datasets where the source is noted as the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey or Labour Force Survey, we recommend using the [Nomis](#) Web service. This ONS service gives access to detailed and up-to-date UK labour market statistics, with various geographic breakdowns available.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/skills-advisory-panels-analytical-toolkit>

Stage 1: Analysis and definition of the local landscape

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Sector and occupational employment	Employment by sector	<u>Number of people employed by sector</u>	England; Region; Combined Authority (CA); Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP); Local Authority (LA)	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Sector and occupational employment	Employment by occupation	<u>Number of people employed by occupation</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Sector and occupational employment	Share of employment by occupation	<u>Persons employed in each occupation as a proportion of total employment</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Specialised skills	UK businesses: activity, size and location	<u>VAT and/or PAYE based enterprises by broad industry group</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	1
	External and local providers of learning	Providers in local area by type and size (learner numbers)	<u>Further Education (FE) and skills learner participation by provider, local authority, funding stream, learner and learning characteristics data</u>	LA	Department for Education (DfE)	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	External and local providers of learning	Ofsted rating of local education providers	<u>Further education and skills inspections and outcomes</u>	LA	Ofsted	D2
	Employment, Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)	Unemployment rate	<u>Unemployment rate</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey / Labour Force Survey	n/a
	Employment, NEET	Employment rate	<u>Employment rate</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey / Labour Force Survey	n/a
	Employment, NEET	Underemployment	<u>Underemployment</u>	England; Region	ONS Annual Population Survey / Labour Force Survey	n/a
	Employment, NEET	NEET	<u>Proportion of 16-17 year olds recorded as not in education, employment or training or whose activity is not known</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	n/a
	Employment, NEET	KS4 and KS5 destination measures; comparison of free school meals (FSM) vs. non-FSM	<u>Data on Key Stage 4 (KS4) and Key Stage 5 (KS5) students going into education, employment and training destinations</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Demographics	Rural / urban split	<u>Rural-Urban Classification of Local Authorities</u>	LA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	n/a
	Demographics	Age distribution of population	<u>Population estimates</u>	England; LA	ONS population estimates	MYE1, MYE2, MYE5
	Demographics	Age distribution of population	<u>Profile of total population</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS population projections	1, 2
	Demographics	Age distribution of working-age population	<u>Profile of working-age population</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS population projection	1, 2
	Migration	International migration	<u>Short and long term international migration</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	n/a
	Migration	Local area migration	<u>Short and long term internal migration</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	n/a
	Workforce conditions and patterns	Zero hour contracts	<u>Proportion of zero hour contracts by region, occupation / sectors and working patterns</u>	England; Region	ONS Labour Force Survey	n/a
	Workforce conditions and patterns	Working patterns	<u>Contracts held by workforce</u>	England; Region; LEP; CA; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Productivity	Productivity	<u>Sub regional productivity: Nominal gross value added (GVA) per hour worked</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS	A4 (England and Region), C4 (LEP and LA)

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Productivity	Total economic output	<u>Nominal gross value added (GVA)</u>	CA; LEP; LA	ONS	A1, A2
	Productivity	Economic output (by sector, annual growth rate)	<u>Nominal gross value added (GVA), by broad industry group</u>	CA; LEP; LA	ONS	1, 2
	Growth	UK business activity	<u>VAT and / or PAYE based enterprises in districts, counties and unitary authorities within region and country by broad industry group</u>	England; Region; Counties; Authorities	ONS	1
	Growth	Business demography	<u>Active enterprises</u>	England; Region; Counties; LA	ONS / UK Business Register and Employment Survey	3.1, 3.2
	Growth	Business creation	<u>Births of enterprises</u>	England; Region; Counties; LA	ONS / UK Business Register and Employment Survey	1.1, 1.2
	Growth	Business demography	<u>Deaths of enterprises</u>	England; Region; Counties; LA	ONS / UK Business Register and Employment Survey	2.1, 2.2

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Growth	Net rate of business creation	<u>Average annual net difference (births-deaths) of business enterprises as a proportion of average annual active business enterprises (%)</u>	LA	UK Business Register and Employment Survey	n/a
	Wages	Average annual earnings	<u>Median annual gross pay</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings	27.7, 28.7
	Wages	National minimum wage	<u>Jobs paid below minimum wage by category</u>	England; Region	ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings	n/a
	Wages	Gender pay gap	<u>Gender pay gap</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings	27.12, 28.12
	Job and business creation	Number of jobs	<u>Workforce jobs by region and industry</u>	England; Region	ONS	n/a
	Job and business creation	Number of jobs	<u>Total jobs</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	Nomis Labour Market Profiles	n/a
	Job and business creation	Jobs density	<u>Ratio of total jobs to population aged 16-64.</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	Nomis Labour Market Profiles	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Cross-cutting						
	Housing	House prices	<u>UK house price index</u>	England; Counties; Regions; LA	HM Land Registry	n/a
	Housing	Housing affordability index	<u>House price to residence-based earnings ratio</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	n/a
	Housing	Housing affordability index	<u>House price to workplace-based earnings ratio</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	n/a
	Social mobility	Social mobility	<u>Social mobility index</u>	Region; LA	Social Mobility Commission	n/a
	Deprivation	Deprivation	<u>Measure of relative deprivation in small areas. The index of multiple deprivation is the most widely used of these indices</u>	England; Region; LEP; LA	Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)	File 10, File 12
	Transport	Journey to key services	<u>Travel time to town centres</u>	LA	Department for Transport (DfT)	JTS0408
	Transport	Light rail and tram	<u>Passenger journeys, vehicle miles, vehicle kilometres and occupancy</u>	England; Cities	DfT	LRT01
	Poverty	Income related benefits	<u>Estimates of take up for Housing Benefit, Income Support, Jobseekers Allowance</u>	England	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	n/a
	Geography	Location quotients	<u>Location quotient data and industrial specialisation for local authorities</u>	Region; LA	ONS	n/a

Stage 2: Analysis of skills demand

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Occupation and sector demand	Occupational structure of employment	<u>Employment; change in employment; employment share</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Occupation and sector demand	Number of hours worked	<u>Median number of hours worked</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings	27.9-27.11, 28.9-28.11
	Occupation and sector demand	Sectoral structure of employment	<u>Employee jobs; change in jobs; job share</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	UK Business Register and Employment Survey	1, 5, 6
	Workforce skill needs	Skills currently lacking in the labour market	<u>Skills found difficult to obtain</u>	England; LEP; Local Education Authority (LEA)	Employer Skills Survey (ESS)	34-39
	Stock of employment	Stock of employment	<u>Number of people employed</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Stock of employment	Change in number of employed persons by sector	<u>Change in employment; absolute and percentage by occupation</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Workforce share	Shift in workforce share by sector	<u>Proportion of total employment in each sector / occupation</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Business growth	Business growth rates	<u>Enterprises by sector - UK Business Count</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	Inter-Departmental Business Register	1, 16
	Business growth	Proportion of employment in growing industries	<u>Persons employed in growing industries (2000-2015) as a proportion of total employment.</u>	LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Business growth	Proportion of employment in growing occupations	<u>Persons employed in growing occupations (2004-2015) as a proportion of total employment.</u>	LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Recruitment	Recruitment methods used in the last 12 months	<u>The approach to recruitment for employers</u>	England; Region; LEP	Employer Perspectives Survey (EPS)	15
	Vacancies	Vacancies	<u>Vacancies by occupation</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	23 (England), 20 (LEP and LEA)
	Vacancies	Hard-to-fill vacancies (i)	<u>The number of hard-to-fill vacancies as a proportion of all vacancies.</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	22 (England and Region), 19 (LEP and LEA)
	Redundancies	Redundancies	<u>Redundancies by industry, age, sex and re-employment rates</u>	England; Region	ONS Labour Force Survey	RED02
Cross-cutting						
	Barriers to training	Barriers to training	<u>Employer reported barriers to providing more training</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	241 (England), 200 (LEP), 98 (LEA)
	Employment investment in training	Average number of training days	<u>Average number of training days per trainee</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	212 (England), 172 (LEP), 89 (LEA)

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Cross-cutting						
	Employment investment in training	Staff trained over the last 12 months	<u>Number of staff trained over the past 12 months as a proportion of employment</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	206 (England), 167 (LEP), 87 (LEA)
	Employment investment in training	Types of training funded	<u>Types of training funded or arranged for employees</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	200 (England), 161 (LEP), 81 (LEA)
	Employment investment in training	Training by occupation	<u>Profile of training by occupation</u>	England; LEP	ESS	207 (England), 168 (LEP)
	Employment investment in training	Off- the job training	<u>% of establishments providing off / on-the-job training in the last 12 months</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	197 (England), 158 (LEP), 78 (LEA)
	Technological change	Research & Development (R&D)	<u>Employment and expenditure in Research & Development businesses</u>	England	ONS	1, 4

Stage 3: Analysis of skills supply

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Provider participation rates	FE and skills funded learners	<u>Participation by Provider by Funding Stream, Learner and Learning Characteristics</u>	Region; LA	DfE	n/a
	Qualifications	Qualifications	<u>Highest educational qualifications of the population and workforce</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Education leaver preparedness	Preparedness of education leavers for work	<u>Employer perception on how prepared young people are for work by education type and age</u>	England; LEP	ESS	83 / 85 / 87 / 89 (England), 63 / 65 / 67 / 69 (LEP)
	Mismatches and underutilisation	Mismatches and underutilisation	<u>Proportion of staff that have qualifications more advanced than required for their current job role</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	187 (England), 151 (LEP), 72 (LEA)

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Learner starts	Apprenticeship learner starts	<u>Apprenticeship starts by subject and course level</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	DfE	n/a
	FE outcomes	KS4 school outcomes; comparison of FSM vs non-FSM	<u>Average Attainment 8 score per pupil by local authority</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	LA2
	FE outcomes	KS4 destination measures; comparison of FSM vs non-FSM	<u>Data on KS4 students going into education, employment and training destinations</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	n/a
	FE outcomes	KS5 destination measures; comparison of FSM vs non-FSM	<u>Data on KS5 students going into education, employment and training destinations</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	n/a
	FE outcomes	FE outcome-based success measures	<u>Data on education employment and training destinations of learners achieving further education training</u>	England; CA; LEP; LA	DfE	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	HE participation	HE applicant characteristics and course subjects	<u>Data on applicant characteristics and course subjects by provider</u>	Provider	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS)	n/a
	HE participation	HE student enrolments	<u>HE student enrolments by provider and subject of study</u>	England; Provider	Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)	13
	HE outcomes	Graduate outcomes	<u>Employment and earning outcomes for HE graduates by provider</u>	England; Region	DfE	n/a
	HE outcomes	Postgraduate outcomes	<u>Employment and earning outcomes for those graduating with a Level 7 or Level 8 postgraduate degree</u>	England; Region	DfE	n/a
	HE outcomes	Median earnings of graduates compared to non-graduates	<u>Comparison of graduate and non-graduate median earnings</u>	England; LA	DfE	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	HE outcomes	Graduate employment	<u>Graduate outcomes by personal characteristics and subjects studied, including breakdowns by industrial and occupational classifications</u>	England	HESA	n/a
	Graduate retention	Region of residence of graduates by current region	<u>Current region of residence of graduates by provider for 1, 3 and 5 years after graduation</u>	Provider	DfE	n/a
	Labour migration	Labour migration by sector	<u>Share of European Union (EU) nationals employed by sector</u>	England; Region	ONS	4
	Labour migration	Labour migration by occupation	<u>Share of EU nationals employed by industry</u>	England; Region	ONS	6

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Sector growth and decline	Output by industry	<u>Output of production industries</u>	England	ONS	n/a
	Sector growth and decline	Nominal GVA by industry	<u>Regional GVA by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) industry</u>	England; Region	ONS	1, 2
Cross-cutting						
	Demographics	Demographic change	<u>Population figures</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS population projections	n/a
	Travel to work	Journey to key services	<u>Travel time for employment centres</u>	LA	DfT	JTS0401
	Migration / EU Exit	Net international migration	<u>Local Area Migration Indicators, UK</u>	England; Region; LA	ONS	n/a

Stage 4 – Mapping of demand and supply

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Skills shortages	Employer reported skills shortage vacancies	<u>Number and density of skill-shortage vacancies (SSVs), by occupation</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	35 (England), 30 (LEP and LEA)
	Skills gaps	Employer reported skills gaps	<u>Density of skills gaps</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	156 (England), 130 (LEP), 51 (LEA)
	Skills gaps	Causes of skills gaps	<u>Causes of skills gaps</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	160 / 161 (England and Region), 134 / 135 (LEP), 55 / 56 (LEA)
	Mismatches and underutilisation	Proportion of staff that are under-utilised	<u>Proportion of staff that are under-utilised (i.e. those that have both qualifications and skills that are more advanced than required for their current job role)</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	188 (England and Region), 152 (LEP), 73 (LEA)
	Labour force participation rates	Economic activity and inactivity	<u>Economic activity and inactivity rate</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey / Labour Force Survey	n/a

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Skills and Labour Supply						
	Labour force participation rates	Labour force participation rate	<u>Labour force participation rate</u>	England; International	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)	n/a
	Further education outcomes	Further education outcome-based success measures	<u>Outcomes by learner characteristics and learning type</u>	Region; LA	DfE	LA01
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Wage	Weekly earnings	<u>Average weekly earnings by sectors</u>	England	ONS	EARN01 Table 1, EARN 02 Table 4
	Wage	Weekly earnings	<u>Average weekly earnings by industry</u>	England	ONS	1
	Competition	Skills demand	<u>Skills that will need developing</u>	England; LEP; LEA	ESS	192 (England), 155 (LEP), 76 (LEA)

	Topic	Measure	Indicator	Granularity	Source	Table No.
Economy and Labour Demand						
	Concentration of employment in employers	Economic activity (by employment status)	<u>Economic activity by self-employed; economically inactive; part-time employment; unemployed; full-time employment; flexible employment</u>	England; Region; CA; LEP; LA	ONS Annual Population Survey	n/a
	Productivity	Productivity	<u>Labour productivity: region by industry</u>	England; Region	ONS	n/a
	Productivity	Productivity	<u>International comparisons of productivity</u>	England; International	ONS	1
Cross-cutting						
	Travel to work	Journey to key services	<u>Travel time, destination and origin indicators for Employment centres by mode of travel</u>	LA	DfT	JTS0401
	Learner behaviour and destinations	Destination measures	<u>Destinations of KS4 and KS5 pupils</u>	England; Region; LA	DfE	n/a
	Learner behaviour and destinations	Graduate employment and unemployment	<u>Graduates in the UK Labour Market</u>	England; Region	ONS	n/a
	Travel to education	Journey to key services	<u>Travel time, destination and origin indicators for Further education by mode of travel</u>	LA	DfT	JTS0404

2. Examples of other sources

Source	Department
<u>Explore Education Statistics</u>	DfE
<u>Further Education Data Library</u>	DfE
<u>Working Futures Labour Market Projections 2017- 2027²</u>	DfE
<u>Benefit Statistics Stat-Xplore</u>	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)
<u>Provider-level application data</u>	UCAS
<u>LEP Outlook</u>	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)
<u>Adult Participation in Learning Survey 2017</u>	DfE
<u>Future of Skills and Lifelong Learning 2017</u>	Government Office for Science
<u>The UK Innovation Survey 2017</u>	BEIS
<u>European Labour Force Survey</u>	Eurostat
<u>Employment and Labour Market Statistics</u>	OECD
<u>Fuller Working Lives: Evidence Base</u>	DWP
<u>Improving Lives: Work, Health & Disability Green Paper Data Pack</u>	DWP and Department for Health and Social Care (DHSC)

² The Working Futures publication is linked with the Employer Skills Survey.



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